

(Draft – Awaiting Approval)  
**MINUTES OF THE  
VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION**  
Tuesday, October 25, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. – Room 30 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Peter C. Knudson, Senate Chair  
Rep. Paul Ray, House Chair  
Sen. Karen Mayne  
Rep. Marie H. Poulson  
Dr. Steven Allen  
Major General Jefferson S. Burton  
Dr. Blair K. Carruth  
Ms. Jackie L. Chamberlain  
Mr. Tim M. Cosgrove  
Mr. Bart Davis  
Mr. Brian Garrett  
Mr. Gary Harter  
Mr. Dennis Howland  
Mr. Frank Maughan  
Mr. Greg Rowley  
Mr. Terry D. Schow

**Members Absent:**

Rep. Val L. Peterson  
Mr. Zachary Barrus  
Mr. Tage I. Flint  
Mr. George Gutzmer  
Mr. Paul Patrick  
Mr. Jon Pierpont

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Gregg A. Girvan, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Esther Chelsea-McCarty, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Assistant

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.leg.utah.gov](http://www.leg.utah.gov).

**1. Commission Business**

Chair Ray called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m. Chair Ray welcomed Dennis Howland as a new member of the commission and excused Rep. Peterson, Mr. Barrus, Mr. Gutzmer, Mr. Patrick, and Mr. Pierpont and acknowledged Bruce Summers, who was in attendance for Mr. Pierpont.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maughan moved to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2016, meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Knudson was absent for the vote.

**2. 2016 General Session S.B. 96, "Uniform Deployed Parents Custody and Parent-Time Act"**

Mr. Garrett updated commission members on implementation issues inherent in 2016 General Session S.B. 96, "Uniform Deployed Parents Custody and Parent-Time Act," including what happens to children when service members are deployed and how to update the legislation to better care for the needs of children whose service member parents have divorced.

Major General Burton indicated that in the current form, the statute potentially requires the divorced service member to engage with an attorney at each deployment, which could have a negative impact on recruiting and retaining service members because of the cost of repetitive legal representation. He briefed commission members on the ideas that are being discussed to remedy this issue.

Mr. Garret indicated that they would like to bring legislation back to the commission for review prior to the 2017 General Session.

### **3. Utah National Guard Annual Report**

Major General Burton introduced Captain Brian Yardley, Aide-de-camp, who assisted in the presentation of "Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission Meeting 2016 Report." During the presentation, Major General Burton briefed commission members on:

- the mission of the Utah National Guard;
- current and projected deployments;
- the Utah National Guard budget;
- plans to upgrade several Utah National Guard facilities in the state; and
- major events that have taken place throughout the year.

### **4. Draft bill, "Veterans Tuition Gap Program Act Amendments"**

This item was not discussed.

### **5. Draft bill, "Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission Amendments"**

Ms. Chelsea-McCarty reviewed provisions of draft legislation "Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission Amendments" (2017FL-0022/007), which was distributed in the mailing packet, and stated that the bill will make the commission permanent.

**MOTION:** Sen. Knudson moved that on Line 48 following "a member of the Board of Regents" that "or the Board of Regents' designee" be added. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Sen. Knudson moved to recommend draft legislation "Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission Amendments." The motion passed unanimously.

### **6. Other Business/Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Mr. Maughan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Knudson adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m.